

SENATE BILL 3398

By Harper

AN ACT to designate a bridge in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County as the "American Prisoners of War Pathway".

WHEREAS, since the birth of our great nation, millions of brave American men and women have served their country in the United States Armed Forces, and many continue this legacy of service today, defending the most inviolate principles of human freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, hundreds of thousands of our brave soldiers have been imprisoned as prisoners of war over the years and experienced inhumane treatment and horrible living conditions at the hands of the enemy; and

WHEREAS, although most prisoners of war have eventually returned to civilian life, they have sacrificed much of their personal liberty and happiness in the process; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should honor those courageous prisoners of war who have sacrificed their freedom in service of their country by naming a certain bridge in the state capital in their honor; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Shelby Street pedestrian bridge in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County is hereby designated the "American Prisoners of War Pathway" in honor of the many valiant American soldiers who have endured untold hardships as prisoners of war.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "American Prisoners of War Pathway".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.